

CITY OF MILPITAS
SISTER CITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION (SCC)
COMMITTEE CONFERENCE ROOM, MILPITAS CITY HALL

MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2017

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call** Chair Grilli called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Commissioners present: Arefi, Awasthi, Chang, Grilli, Strohfus, Tsai. Commissioners absent: Manogaran. Alternate Commissioners Present: Li, Shapiro.
- Council Liaison Anthony Phan: Absent
MHS Student Liaison Dinh: Absent
MUSD Liaison: Absent.
Staff Liaison Leslie Stobbe: Present
- II. Alternates Seating of** Both Alternates were seated.
- III. Allegiance Pledge of** Chair Grilli lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Minutes** MOTION to approve the minutes of February 23, 2017.
M / S: Chang / Awasthi Ayes: Awasthi, Chang, Strohfus, Tsai
Abstain: Arefi, Grilli, Li, Shapiro
- V. Agenda** MOTION to approve the agenda of April 27, 2017.
M / S: Awasthi / Arefi Ayes: All
- VI. Announcements:** Staff announced that Commissioner Manogaran has resigned. Staff confirmed attendance for the Commissioners' Recognition Lunch on April 29, 2017
- VII. Public Forum:** None.
- VIII. Old Business**
- 1. Discuss Interest in Sister City Relationship with Hyderabad, India**
Commissioner Awasthi reported that there is no new information from Hyderabad officials.
 - 2. Possible Sister City Relationship with a Latin American City**
Chair Grilli reported contact with Silvia Landers, a prominent citizen in Santa Cruz, Bolivia who is interested in establishing a relationship between the district in which she lives and Milpitas. Chair Grilli send an email with details about Milpitas to begin discussions of a possible relationship.
 - 3. Update: Contact with Milpitas High School (MHS) Leadership Team**
Chair Grilli stated he will reach out to the Milpitas Unified School District Board to determine who is to be the assistant principal assigned to work with staff on the homestays and school attendance in October.

4. Current Ideas in Motion to Promote the Sister Cities Program

Commissioners considered participation in the International Festival & BBQ and reviewed a possible schedule to staff a booth. It was decided to conduct an exhibit and play Karuta after determining that enough commissioners are available to work a shift.

5. e-Pal Project with Sister Cities

Student communications are ongoing; Tsukuba will conclude its participation in March and Huizhou and Dagupan students will continue through June.

7. Tsukuba City, Japan

Commissioner Arefi reported that MHS junior Ananya Donapati presented her idea to start an art project exchange between her art club and an art club or student group in Tsukuba to Ms. Wantanabe who will contact the nine high schools in Tsukuba to determine interest. The purpose is to exchange art creations using regular or international mail. Two ideas are to display art at a festival in Tsukuba in November and to exchange holiday cards, either with a personal touch or original art.

8. Dagupan City, Philippines

Staff will email contact information to Lead Commissioner Tsai.

9. Huizhou Municipality, China

Staff reported that she received an email from Huizhou staff exploring the possibility of assistance with a trade visit to Silicon Valley. There was only the initial exchange and research conducted. Staff will await assignment of a visit date to proceed with coordination.

X. Student Liaison Report – None

XI. City Council Liaison Report – None

XII. School District Liaison Report – None

XIII. Future Agenda Items

1. Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges
 - i. Tsukuba, Japan
 - ii. Dagupan, Philippines
 - iii. Huizhou, China
2. Hyderabad, India
3. International Festival & BBQ Wrap-up
4. Work Plan FY17-18 & Council Presentation
5. Host Family Preparations

XII. Adjournment

No further business was discussed. Chair Grilli requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting of February 23, 2017 to the meeting of March 23, 2017.

M / S: Arefi / Tsai

Ayes: All